



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18AP107

Site Name: Adams-Kilty House

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Late 18th-19th century urban house lot

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 7

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 38.9830

Longitude -76.4835

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation m

Site slope

Ethnobotany profile available

Maritime site

Site setting

-Site Setting restricted

-Lat/Long accurate to within 1 sq. mile, user may need to make slight adjustments in mapping to account for sites near state/county lines or streams

### Topography

- Floodplain
- Hilltop/bluff
- Interior flat
- Upland flat
- Ridgetop
- Terrace
- Low terrace
- High terrace
- Rockshelter/cave
- Hillslope
- Unknown
- Other
- rolling uplands

### Ownership

- Private
- Federal
- State of MD
- Regional/county/city
- Unknown

### Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Spa Creek

#### Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Minimum distance to water is

#### Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

335 m

## Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site

Woodland site

Archaic site

MD Adena

Early archaic

Early woodland

Middle archaic

Mid. woodland

Late archaic

Late woodland

Unknown prehistoric context

Contact period site

ca. 1820 - 1860

ca. 1630 - 1675

ca. 1860 - 1900

ca. 1675 - 1720

ca. 1900 - 1930

ca. 1720 - 1780

Post 1930

ca. 1780 - 1820

Unknown historic context

Unknown context

### Ethnic Associations (historic only)

Native American

Asian American

African American

Unknown

Anglo-American

Other

Hispanic

Y=Confirmed, P=Possible

## Site Function Contextual Data:

### Prehistoric

Multi-component

Misc. ceremonial

Village

Rock art

Hamlet

Shell midden

Base camp

STU/lithic scatter

Rockshelter/cave

Quarry/extraction

Earthen mound

Fish weir

Cairn

Production area

Burial area

Unknown

Other context

### Historic

Urban/Rural? Urban

#### Domestic

Homestead

Farmstead

Mansion

Plantation

Row/townhome

Cellar

Privy

#### Industrial

Mining-related

Quarry-related

Mill

Black/metalsmith

Furnace/forge

Other

#### Transportation

Canal-related

Road/railroad

Wharf/landing

Maritime-related

Bridge

Ford

#### Educational

#### Commercial

Trading post

Store

Tavern/inn

#### Military

Battlefield

Fortification

Encampment

#### Townsite

#### Religious

Church/mtg house

Ch support bldg

#### Burial area

Cemetery

Sepulchre

Isolated burial

#### Bldg or foundation

Possible Structure

Post-in-ground

Frame-built

Masonry

Other structure

#### Slave related

Non-domestic agri

Recreational

Midden/dump

Artifact scatter

Spring or well

Unknown

Other context

## Interpretive Sampling Data:

### Prehistoric context samples

Soil samples taken

Flotation samples taken

Other samples taken

### Historic context samples

Soil samples taken

Flotation samples taken

Other samples taken



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18AP107

Site Name: Adams-Kilty House

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Late 18th-19th century urban house lot

## Diagnostic Artifact Data:

Projectile Point Types		Koens-Crispin	
Clovis	<input type="checkbox"/>	Perkiomen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hardaway-Dalton	<input type="checkbox"/>	Susquehana	<input type="checkbox"/>
Palmer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vernon	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kirk (notch)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Piscataway	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kirk (stem)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Calvert	<input type="checkbox"/>
Le Croy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Selby Bay	<input type="checkbox"/>
Morrow Mntn	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jacks Rf (notch)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Guilford	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jacks Rf (pent)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brewerton	<input type="checkbox"/>	Madison/Potomac	<input type="checkbox"/>
Otter Creek	<input type="checkbox"/>	Levanna	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Prehistoric Sherd Types

Marcey Creek	<input type="checkbox"/>	Popes Creek	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shepard	<input type="checkbox"/>	Keyser	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dames Qtr	<input type="checkbox"/>	Coulbourn	<input type="checkbox"/>	Townsend	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yeocomico	<input type="checkbox"/>
Selden Island	<input type="checkbox"/>	Watson	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minguannan	<input type="checkbox"/>	Monongahela	<input type="checkbox"/>
Accokeek	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mockley	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sullivan Cove	<input type="checkbox"/>	Susquehannock	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wolfe Neck	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clemson Island	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shenks Ferry	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Vinette	<input type="checkbox"/>	Page	<input type="checkbox"/>	Moyaone	<input type="checkbox"/>		
				Potomac Crk	<input type="checkbox"/>		

### Historic Sherd Types

Earthenware		Ironstone		Staffordshire		Stoneware	
Astbury	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jackfield	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tin Glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>	English Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Borderware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mn Mottled	<input type="checkbox"/>	Whiteware	20	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	Porcelain	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	12	Pearlware	2			Rhenish	<input type="checkbox"/>
						Wt Salt-glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

## Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts		Other fired clay	
Flaked stone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ground stone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Modified faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stone bowls	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unmod faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire-cracked rock	<input type="checkbox"/>	Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Uncommon Obj.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rimsherds	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Prehistoric Features

Mound(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Storage/trash pit	<input type="checkbox"/>
Midden	<input type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shell midden	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ossuary	<input type="checkbox"/>
Postholes/molds	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
House pattern(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
Palisade(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Hearth(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Lithic reduc area	<input type="checkbox"/>		

### Lithic Material

Fer quartzite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sil sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jasper	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chalcedony	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chert	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rhyolite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Argilite	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartz	<input type="checkbox"/>	Steatite	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartzite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
		European flint	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Basalt	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Dated features present at site

1920 Pipe Break

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	37	Activity item(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	105	Faunal material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc. kitchen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc.	1650
Personal items	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Historic Features

Const feature	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Privy/outhouse	<input type="checkbox"/>	Depression/mound	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Foundation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Well/cistern	<input type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cellar hole/cellar	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trash pit/dump	<input type="checkbox"/>	Railroad bed	<input type="checkbox"/>	utility trenches, Af. Am Cache?	
Hearth/chimney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sheet midden	<input type="checkbox"/>	Earthworks	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Postholes/molds	<input type="checkbox"/>	Planting feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mill raceway	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Paling ditch/fence	<input type="checkbox"/>	Road/walkway	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wheel pit	<input type="checkbox"/>		

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

## Radiocarbon Data:

Sample 1:  +/-  years BP Reliability  Sample 2:  +/-  years BP Reliability  Sample 3:  +/-  years BP Reliability

Sample 4:  +/-  years BP Reliability  Sample 5:  +/-  years BP Reliability  Sample 6:  +/-  years BP Reliability

Sample 7:  +/-  years BP Reliability  Sample 8:  +/-  years BP Reliability  Sample 9:  +/-  years BP Reliability

Additional radiocarbon results available



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18AP107

Site Name: Adams-Kilty House

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief Description:

Late 18th-19th century urban house lot

Unknown

## External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at University of Maryland

Additional raw data may be available online

## Summary Description:

The Adams-Kilty House (18AP107) was built in the late 18th century and is listed on the Maryland Inventory of Historic Places (MIHP# AA-393). It is situated within the Historic District of the City of Annapolis, Maryland, just around the corner from Church Circle. It faces southeast onto Charles Street, with a private access way on the southwest. There is a small yard located in the rear of the house on the northeast side. The house was originally built in the Georgian style with two stories over a high basement. It has a 5 bay front. The main block of the house is 35 feet square, plus a rear addition. It was heavily altered in historic times to present a more Victorian appearance. The surrounding landscape is heavily developed as an urban area. Soils at the site are Collington and Wist sandy loams as well as some human transported soils.

The land on which the Adams-Kilty house stands was originally denoted as Lot #52 and was adjoined with Lot #53 and #55, according to a 1718 Map of Annapolis. The land was initially purchased in 1718 by William Gresham of Kent County, a larger landowner. The land remained in the Gresham family and in 1770 was willed by John Gresham to his brother Thomas. During this time, the property was still barren and undeveloped.

In 1772, Thomas Gresham accepted a bond from William Adams of Somerset County. Adams agreed to pay Gresham, "one hundred and eighty pounds current money by December 5, 1772 and one hundred and twenty pounds sterling money of Great Britain in bills of exchange by May 14, 1773", for the three lots of land. Gresham died before complying with the bond and on April 22, 1788, Adams petitioned Richard Gresham, heir to Thomas Gresham, for the deed to the property. In 1789, it was determined that the Adams had paid for the lots of land and the deed to the land was decreed on November the 28th.

The Adams-Kilty home was built during the time in which Adams was waiting to receive the deed from the Gresham family. It is believed that the house was built from 1773-1774 by William Buckland, an English born builder and architect. The house was built in a Georgian style, with the interior reflecting an Annapolis style plan. The architecture of the house is similar to homes built during the same time period by William Buckland. It is believed that Buckland finished only the main structure of the house before his death in the fall of 1774. The house was unoccupied for a few years due to the Revolutionary War, as the Adams Family chose to reside on their plantation instead of living in the city. The remainder of the property was unimproved as the war slowed private building for most of the city.

On February 18, 1786, William Adams of Somerset County leased the property to Thomas Brooke Hodgkins of Annapolis for a period of 12 years beginning April 20, 1786. The terms of the lease were for Hodgkins to pay an annual rent of "forty pounds in Spanish milled dollars at 7 shillings and 6 pence each". The lease also stipulated that Hodgkins make certain repairs to the building, erect a post and rail fence, install a well and pump, enclose a garden, and build a meat house, wooden stable, and a carriage room/house. Before the term of the lease was up, William Adams died and it is uncertain whether Hodgkins moved from the home before the term of the lease.

William Adams died in 1795 in Somerset County. The house along with the adjoining lots of land were sold as decided by the family, but the history of the house is hard to establish between 1798 and 1799. According to the Tax List for 1798, a General John Davidson appears to have been occupying the house for the Adams family and eventually became the trustee (along with Robert Denny) over the selling of the property. The relationship between General John Davidson and the widow of William Adams is not known.

The property was sold at public sale to William Kilty in 1799. Kilty purchased the property for £775. William Kilty, after owning the property for about 19 years, sold it to Francis Hollingsworth in 1818. In 1824, Dr. George Wells purchased the property from Hollingsworth. Dr. Wells occupied the home for the greater part of the 19th century. George Wells (along with his family) occupied the property and in 1908 the property was passed from Miss Annie Wells to another Mr. George Wells. In 1918, the property was given to Mr. George Wells's three nieces: Misses Beatrice, Frances, and Louise Wells.

The Adams-Kilty House was divided into two apartments sometime between 1900 and 1910. Mr. Wells occupied one half of the house and the other portion of the property was rented out to Martha Volans and W.F. Lambdin. After the house was passed to the Wells' nieces, according to the Annapolis City Directories for 1924, none of the family members seem to have resided on the property. In 1920, Ms. Beatrice Wells and her husband Walter Hart became the new owners of the property. Upon the death of Mr. Hart, the estate was sold in 1944 by Mercantile Trust Company, the executors of his will.

The first documented archeological work at 18AP107 occurred in the summer of 2005. At that time, the University of Maryland at College Park, through its partnership with Historic Annapolis, known as Archaeology in Annapolis, was undertaking archeological testing in an effort to answer questions related to African-American history in Annapolis. The basement of the Adams-Kilty House was believed to have served as a working and living space for enslaved individuals historically. No justification for this is provided in the full site report, but presumably there was oral history related to this use. The 2005 excavations focused on locating artifacts which add to the understanding of the religious beliefs and practices of African Americans in Annapolis. To see if there is a consistent pattern, units (of varying size) were opened in doorways, hearths, and northeast corners in the basement area of the house, locations which are associated with African Diasporic religious practices. Excavations were not limited to these locations however. A total of 8 units were opened throughout the basement in 2005.

Units were placed in the eastern-most quadrant of the basement, in the kitchen, at the bottom of the stairs, and in a room potentially used as a living area for the laborers of the house. Before excavations on the units began, each unit was mapped and photographed. Excavators then removed the brick flooring by hand and in some cases with the use of a tool if the bricks were laid too tightly. Once this level was removed, the units were excavated stratigraphically using masonry trowels. Arbitrary levels were used to identify the differing stratigraphic changes in the soil. Data collection for each level consisted of photographs, maps (profile and plan view), artifact lists, soil definition, and elevations taken with line levels pulled from known elevation points.

All soil collected was screened through ¼ inch hardware mesh screens with the exception of certain features which were screened through 1/8 inch mesh in order to retrieve small artifacts such as matches and straight pins. Upon the completion of each unit, the unit was backfilled and the bricks were placed back in the same pattern and location.

Excavations did yield two features that contained artifacts in very close association to each other, which had the potential to be ritual caches. However, the other units did not yield any objects which, with certainty, could be identified as ritualized objects.



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18AP107

Site Name: Adams-Kilty House

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief Description:

Late 18th-19th century urban house lot

Unknown

Both of the "caches" recovered were located in front of a hearth in the northern-most room of the house. Analysis of the caches conducted in the field initially suggested that these were African Diaspora ritual caches. The features contained several nails, a porcelain insulator, a red bead, and several glass shards with etched opaque white squares. These items are known to have been used in West African ritual practices associated with the deity "Ogoun". The design of the backside of the insulator is quite similar to the Vévé of Ogoun, while the color red and the metal (represented by the nails) are all attributes of Ogoun.

Subsequent excavation revealed that the two caches were separated by a broken ceramic drain pipe. The hole in the ceramic pipe is directly adjacent to the area of the two "caches". Thus, there is a strong possibility that these deposits could be simply explained as objects flushed out of the pipe when it was punctured. Soil changes noted in the area of the "caches" strongly suggest that they are in fact associated with the pipe bursting. The dates of the artifacts (especially the porcelain insulator) would place the puncturing of the pipe around 1920. According to oral history, the house was a boarding house around that time. It was determined that a definitive answer could not be attained and further investigations were not warranted.

The artifacts that were recovered from other units dated from 1780-1920. These dates were based on other porcelain insulators, ceramics, paper, and nails. The ceramics were mostly plain wares which are believed to have been used by the renters of the house. People of lower economic status tended to use ceramics which were cheaper to purchase. In the unit adjacent to the hearth in the western-most room of the house, archeologists recovered a large amount of faunal remains from the floor and in the same level with pieces of plain stoneware. This evidence places this unit post 1805.

Diagnostic artifacts recovered during the excavation of 18AP107 included 5 hand-wrought nails, 30 machine cut nails, 70 wire nails, 3 transfer-printed cream-colored ware sherds, 12 light yellow creamware sherds, 2 pearlware sherds, 20 whiteware sherds, and 3 tobacco pipe bowls. An additional 1650 miscellaneous objects were recovered during the 2005 excavations.

Ultimately evidence of disturbance within the basement of the Adams-Kilty House precluded making definitive determinations regarding the only potential significant features identified at 18AP107. Based on these findings, the site does not appear to be capable of addressing ongoing research questions related to Maryland history.

## External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

97003044